

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-30 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 6,018,359 (Kermode) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,115,366 (Campanella). Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection.

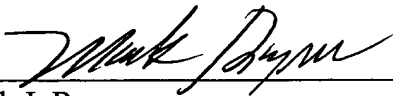
With regard to claim 1, nowhere does Kermode teach or suggest determining a time difference between a first program being transmitted to a first receiver and a second program transmitted to a second receiver. That is, in Kermode there is no determination of a time difference between two transmissions (i.e., programs). Instead, the cited material at col. 6, lns. 14-36 of Kermode discloses a receiver that downloads segments synchronously or asynchronously. In either case, the transmitter transmits the same segments over and over. The receiver then downloads the segments, either synchronously or asynchronously. There is no teaching or suggestion in Kermode that a time difference is determined between a first receiver receiving a first program and a second receiver receiving a second program. Accordingly, Kermode further does not teach or suggest reducing a time difference between programs. In this regard, Kermode merely discloses that an access latency between program segments is minimized. Kermode, col. 4, lns. 20-45. However, there is no disclosure of minimizing a time difference between first and second programs received by first and second receivers.

Furthermore, there is no motivation to combine Kermode with Campanella, as the cited section of Campanella relates to a radio receiver that attempts to synchronize a time division multiplexing (TDM) bit stream. Campanella has nothing to do with synchronizing between two programs nor determining whether a time difference between two programs is below a threshold level. For at least these reasons, claim 1 and claims 2-12 depending therefrom are patentable over the proposed combination. For at least the same reasons, claims 13-30 are similarly patentable.

In view of these remarks, the application is now in condition for allowance and the Examiner's prompt action in accordance therewith is respectfully requested. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 20-1504.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: September 9, 2004



Mark J. Rozman
Registration No. 42,117
TROP, PRUNER & HU, P.C.
8554 Katy Freeway, Suite 100
Houston, Texas 77024-1805
(512) 418-9944 [Phone]
(713) 468-8883 [Fax]
Customer No. 21906